



Date: February 4, 2024
To: Lake and Peninsula School Board
From: Kasie Luke, Superintendent
Re: Report: February 8, 2024

Front Burner Dates & Happenings:

- 5th & 6th Grade Battle of the Books - Zoom February 9, 2024
- LPSD Basketball District Tournament - Perryville February 14-16, 2024
- 3rd & 4th Grade Battle of the Books - Zoom February 15, 2024
- Kindergarten Battle of the Books - Zoom February 16, 2024
- 1st Grade Battle of the Books - Zoom February 19, 2024
- 2nd Grade Battle of the Books - Zoom February 20, 2024
- Lake and Pen Borough Assembly Meeting - Zoom February 20, 2024
- Regional Boys Basketball - New Stuyahak February 28-March 2, 2024
- Regional Girls Basketball - Bristol Bay February 28 - March 2, 2024

LPSD School Board Strategic Planning Continued

January 23, 2024, the updated LPSD Mission and Vision was adopted:

Mission: *“We will nourish student growth by investing in partnerships & implementing culturally responsive place-based education.”*

Vision: *“We grow self-directed, life-long learners who are grounded in their culture & contribute to their communities.”*

On January 30, 2024, our administrative team worked with AASB to map out the LPSD Focus Areas and developed a rough idea for strategies, actions, and metrics in place. We will continue to keep these areas of focus on the forefront as we look ahead at the 2024-2025 school year and beyond.

1. Student Focused Readiness
2. Supporting Staff
3. Culturally Relevant, Project and Place-Based Learning
4. Building and Sustaining Partnerships

Teacher Recruitment & Retention & Partnership

LPSD offered contracts to certified staff on January 12, 2024, then folks have 30 days to decide to sign their agreement for the 2024-2025 school year. We have brought on four Instructional Tutors (certified teachers) for the Spring semester in Nondalton, Chignik Lake, Kokhanok, and Newhalen. We have student teachers (teacher candidates who are still in college) in Port Heiden, Chignik Lagoon, and Igiugig. Through BBRCTE, we are creating pathways for paraprofessionals to work towards their teaching degrees and incorporating teacher internship programs for students considering the teaching profession. Our partnership with the Bristol Bay Foundation, Bristol Bay Teaching and Learning Cooperative, and the University of Alaska Anchorage will continue to support our staffing efforts for the 2024-2025 school year and ideally beyond.

LPSD Budget & State Funding Uncertainties

We have hosted Budget 101 Zoom sessions for the public on December 19 and January 16 to educate community members, staff, and students about why there will be program shifts and how LPSD staffing and structure look ahead in the year(s). Mrs. Laura Hylton and I spoke to the individuals in attendance regarding:

- Foundational understanding of the history & present finances of LPSD
- Subsistence Calendar: Then and Now
- Greatest cost areas necessary to evaluate areas for change
- History of State funding and our current status
- Better Together/Partnership Problem-solving efforts

The following steps to educate the Board and the public regarding the 2024-2025 and beyond LPSD budget considerations are to outline what next year looks like clearly, the projection of what we can anticipate for funding, and the reality of difficult decisions for program restructuring and cost-saving measures need to be decided upon.

There is no certainty in additional state funding beyond the current \$5,960 Base Student Allocation. To maintain our current standard of operation, we would need to see an increase of at least \$1413 (or more) on top of the \$5960. We will budget for the \$5960 BSA in planning for the school year(s) ahead.